

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SECTO 11209 301656Z

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP KISSINGER, HENRY A.

SUBJECT: SECRETARY KISSINGER'S ARRIVAL STATEMENT IN MONROVIA

ARRIVAL STATEMENT SECRETARY KISSINGER IN MONROVIA, FRIDAY, APRIL 30:

"MR. FOREIGN MINISTER, FRIENDS: IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, MR. FOREIGN MINISTER, AND TO BE HERE IN LIBERIA, A NATION WHOSE HISTORY AND FUTURE ARE INEXTRICABLY INTERWOVEN WITH OUR OWN. IT WAS WITH GENUINE REGRET THAT I WAS UNABLE TO ACCEPT PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S GRACIOUS INVITATION TO ATTEND HIS REINAUGURAL. NOW LIKE EVERY OTHER AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE WHO HAS VISITED THIS MAGNIFICENT CONTINENT, I STAND ON LIBERIAN SOIL, KEENLY AWARE OF THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHI THAT LINKS OUR TWO PEOPLES. WE IN THE UNITED STATES GREATLY APPRECIATE THE COOPERATION CONSISTENTLY RECEIVED FROM LIBERIA ON MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. WE ARE GRATIFIED THAT WE CAN SPEAK WITH EACH OTHER AS OLD FRIENDS CONFIDENT THAT OUR FIRMLY ROOTED RELATIONSHIP WILL BE STRENGTHENED BY FRANK AND FORWARD-LOOKING EXCHANGES AND, AS WE DEPART ON WHAT WE HOPE WILL BE A NEW ERA IN RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE POEPLS OF AFRICA, IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT FOR US TO MAINTAIN AND TO STRENGTHEN OUR OLD AND CLOSE RE-

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PAGE 02 SECTO 11209 301656Z

LATIONSHIPS. PRESIDENT FORD HAS CHARGED ME TO CONVEY HIS PERSONAL

GREETINGS TO HIS FRIEND, PRESIDENT TOLBERT AND HAS ASKED ME TO
CARRY A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO HIM. I MYSELF HAVE LONG BEEN LOOKING
FORWARD TO MEETING WITH PRESIDENT TOLBERT HERE. HE IS A GOOD FRIEND
OF THE UNITED STATES -- ONE WHO IS KNOWN AND RESPECTED BY THE AMERI-
CAN PEOPLE. HIS DEDICATION TO PEACE, HIS CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE
INTERNATIONAL ARENA, HIS MORAL LEADERSHIP AND HIS POLITICAL COURAGE
HAVE EARNED HIM WIDESPREAD ESTEEM AND AS
WE PROCEED NOW ON COMMON EFFORTS FOR RACIAL JUSTICE AND ECONOMIC
PROGRESS IN AFRICA, WE PLACE VERY GREAT STRESS ON HIS ADVICE
AND COUNSEL. I LOOK FORWARD TO MY STAY HERE AND THE DISCUSSIONS
I WILL BE HAVING WITH YOU,
MR. MINISTER, AND WITH OTHER LEADERS OF LIBERIA. IT IS MY HOPE
AND CONVICTION THAT MY VISIT HERE WILL STRENGTHEN THE ALREADY
CLOSE BONDS OF AFFECTION BETWEEN THE LIBERIAN AND THE AMERICAN
PEOPLES."
CARTER

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